

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently amended) A method for producing a mature dendritic cell, which comprises the step of

(i) contacting a Sendai virus vector of a Sendai virus Z strain with a CD11c⁺ immature dendritic cell or

(ii) contacting a Sendai virus vector of a Sendai virus Z strain with a CD34⁺ or CD11c⁺ precursor cell of a dendritic cell and differentiating the precursor cell into an immature dendritic cell,

wherein said immature dendritic cell of (i) or (ii) undergoes maturation thereby producing a mature dendritic cell.

3.-4. (Canceled)

5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein step (ii) comprises culturing the precursor cell in the presence of GM-CSF and IL-4 before or after the contacting step.

6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the vector comprises a cytokine gene.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6, wherein the cytokine is interferon β .

8.-9. (Canceled)

10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the cell is a human cell.

11.-14. (Canceled)

15. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the vector comprises a foreign gene.

16.-19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently amended) The method of claim 2, which comprises the step of contacting [[a]] the Sendai virus vector with a precursor cell of a dendritic cell and differentiating the cell into an immature dendritic cell, thereby the immature dendritic cell is spontaneously matured.

21.-24. (Canceled)

25. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, further comprising causing spontaneous maturation of the immature dendritic cell of (i) or (ii) to matured dendritic cell without further stimulation for the maturation.

26.-29. (Canceled)

30. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, comprising contacting the Sendai virus vector with the CD11c⁺ immature dendritic cell.

31. (Previously presented) The method of claim 25, comprising contacting the Sendai virus vector with the CD11c⁺ immature dendritic cell.

32. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, comprising contacting the Sendai virus vector with the CD34⁺ or CD11c⁺ precursor cell of a dendritic cell and differentiating the precursor cell into an immature dendritic cell.

33. (Previously presented) The method of claim 25, comprising contacting the Sendai virus vector with the CD34⁺ or CD11c⁺ precursor cell of a dendritic cell and differentiating the precursor cell into an immature dendritic cell.

34. (Previously presented) The method of claim 2, wherein the introduction efficiency of said Sendai virus vector into said immature dendritic cell or precursor cell of a dendritic cell is 70% or more.